

LESLIE STREET BLOCK ASSN.

WHERE IS OUR SALVATION?

After long suffering silence and much regret, we haveth sith down together to pen our noble city fathers, this, our wrath.

We have banded together to sweep our streets, we have petitioned our public works director to establish alternate-side parking for street cleaning purposes, and we have lamented when all our efforts have gone for naught.

After a hasty call to the public works department last week, a supervisor placatingly told us that our first letter concerning alternate-side parking, probably did not reach the proper officials (even though signs were posted in the area encompassing Nye Ave. Hawthorne Ave., Wainwright St., Dewey St., over to Lyons Ave.).

This past Monday the policeman showed up to dispense tickets to parking violators on Leslie Street, but our middle- of-the-road street sweeper again showed us his contempt (for the fifth week in a row!).

All of this ill treatment has caused many of us to consider some basic assumptions that have merit as they affect black neighborhoods:

1. City services diminish appreciatively in all- black neighborhoods.
2. Sanitation men servicing black neighborhoods are less careful about spillage in the streets.
3. Street sweepers and policemen servicing black neighborhoods do not do an adequate job (a quick ride down the center of the street is good enough for them).
4. Sanitation trucks that pick up larg items do not service black neighborhoods enough.

All of these assumptions are widely held to be true in black areas across the city. We believe that the situation is not hopeless--that a few careless workers make it appear that way. We further believe that the people of Newark gauge the city fathers' concern by the services they are given.

Respectfully yours,

Kenneth Travitt